

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 NIC-01 /084 W

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R 061524Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9404

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 1769

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VN, VT

SUBJECT: ARCHBISHOP CASAROLI MEETS HEAD OF DRV PARLIAMENTARY
DELEGATION

1. VATICAN "FOREIGN MINISTER" ARCHBISHOP AGOSTINO CASAROLI
HAD BRIEF MEETING EVENING JAN 29 WITH NGUYEN VAN TRAN, DEPUTY
IN DRV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND SECRETARY OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
LAO DONG PARTY. TRAN WAS VISITING ITALY AS HEAD OF DRV NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY PARIAMENTARY DELEGATION.ACCORDING TO CASAROLI,
MEETING, WHICH HELD AT APOSTOLIC NUNIATURE IN ROME,WAS REQUESTED
BY ITALIAN INTERMEDIARIES ON BEHALF OF TRAN. CASAROLI UNSURE,
HOWEVER, WHETHER TRAN RESPONSIBLE FOR ORIGINAL IDEA OR WHETHER
INTERMEDIARIES INCLUDED CASAROLI MEETING IN HIS AGENDA WITHOUT
PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH TRAN.

2. CASAROLI SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MEETING WAS LIMITED TO GENER-
ALITIES, HE USED OCCASION TO EXPRESS POPE'S FERVENT HOPES FOR
FULL RESPECT FOR PARIS PEACE ACCORD AND FOR GENEVA CONVENTIONS.
TRAN RESPONDED WITH STANDARD DRV BOILER PLATE THAT SAIGON
RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL VIOLATIONS OF PARIS AGREEMENT. IN DISCUSSING
CHURCH IN DRV, TRAN NOTED THAT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM GUARANTEED
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AND CHURCH OPERATES FREELY. TO CASAROLI'S SURPRISE, TRAN DID

NOT MENTION PRG. VOLPE

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